

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 02096 211801Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 02096

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FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F.)
SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S VISIT: FRENCH
SUGGESTIONS FOR AGENDA

REF: PARIS 1853

1. AT LUNCHEON TODAY, FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD RAISED WITH ME QUESTION OF AGENDA FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS DURING VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S VISIT. HE STRESSED THAT FRENCH ARE ESPECIALLY ANXIOUS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON AUTHORITATIVE LEVELS WITH NEW ADMINISTRATION ON NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION, AS A FOLLOW-UP TO HIS EXCHANGES WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER AND RECENT KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET/BRZEZINSKI MEETING. HE SUGGESTED THAT VICE PRESIDENT MIGHT WISH TO BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS NON-PROLIFERATION IN SOME DETAIL IN RESTRICTED GROUP FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 28, FOLLOWING PRIME MINISTER BARRE'S DINNER, WHICH GUIRINGAUD EXPECTS TO ATTEND. DISCUSSION MIGHT BE CONTINUED AT PRESIDENTIAL LEVEL DURING ELYSEE MEETING SATURDAY.

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2. GUIRINGAUD INDICATED FRENCH ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING ECONOMIC SUMMIT, CONCORDE, CIEC, NUCLEAR TESTING POLICIES AND MIDDLE EAST. HE SAID HE AND PRIME MINISTER ARE HOPING TO REFINE THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING WITH GISCARD BY DISCUSSING THESE AND ANY OTHER SUBJECTS THE VICE PRESIDENT WISHES TO RAISE AT THE FRIDAY EVENING DINNER.

3. COMMENT: THE FRENCH LEADERSHIP CLEARLY WANTS TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ASSURE A SUCCESSFUL SUBSTANTIVE MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO PRINCIPALS ON SATURDAY. THIS IS WHY THEY ARE COUNTING ON A THOROUGH PRELIMINARY GO-AROUND AT DINNER FRIDAY EVENING. SINCE THE PRIME MINISTER PLAYS SUCH A KEY ROLE IN ALL OF THE PRESIDENT'S DECISIONS THESE DAYS, I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT VICE PRESIDENT ACCEPT BARRE'S INVITATION.
RUSH

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